



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/843,718	04/30/2001	Juha-Pekka Sipponen	017.39011X00	9439
20457	7590	05/17/2004	EXAMINER	
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP 1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET SUITE 1800 ARLINGTON, VA 22209-9889			HAQ, NAEEM U	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3625	

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/843,718	SIPPONEN, JUHA-PEKKA
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Naeem Haq	3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 April 2001.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-10 and 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kay (US 6,223,166 B1).

Referring to claim 1-10 and 13-17, Kay teaches a method of electronically purchasing tickets which are required to be presented by a purchaser of the tickets in a printed form comprising:

- using a client terminal which is in communication with a server of a provider of tickets to select a ticket to be purchased (column 5, line 17 – column 6, line 7);
- authenticating and verifying a purchase of a selected ticket and credibility of the purchaser with the server (column 3, line 49 – column 4, line 28);
- saving in a memory information regarding the purchase from which the purchased ticket may be printed by an authorized device (column 3, lines 27-65; column 4, lines 29-31).

Kay does not explicitly teach signing with the server a contract representing purchase of the ticket by the purchaser. However, the Examiner notes that a contract is nothing

more an agreement between two or more parties to do or not to do something. In the present case, Kay teaches that two parties agree to an online transaction using a digital signature. Therefore this limitation is inherent in the method of Kay. Kay also does not explicitly teach that the terminal is a trusted terminal. However, this limitation is also inherent in the teachings of Kay because Kay requires the use of digital signatures and asymmetric cryptography (column 4, lines 5-28). Finally, Kay does not teach that the terminal is a portable terminal. However, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use any sort of device (e.g. laptop, desktop, PDA) in the invention of Kay. Applicant has not disclosed that a portable terminal provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose or solves a stated problem. Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have expected Applicants' invention to perform equally well with the workstation of Kay because the portability of the device does not affect the steps or elements of the recited method or system claims. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to modify the teachings of Kay to obtain the invention as specified in the claims.

Referring claim 2, Kay teaches that the purchaser communicates with the provider of the tickets (column 5, lines 17-55).

Referring to claim 7, Kay teaches checking the validity of the ticket (column 4, line 63 – column 5, line 16).

Referring to claims 8-10, Kay teaches contacting the output device with the user terminal to enable the downloading and printing the ticket (column 5, lines 17-55).

Referring to claim 15, Kay does not teach the use of low power radio link transmitters and receivers. However, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate this feature into the prior art. Applicant has not disclosed that low power radio links provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose or solves a stated problem. Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have expected Applicants' invention to perform equally well with the connection links of the prior art because the radio links do not affect the steps or elements of the recited method and system claims. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to modify the teachings of Kay to obtain the invention as specified in the claims.

Claims 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kay (US 6,223,166 B1) in view of Official Notice.

Referring to claims 11 and 12, Kay does not teach communicating and downloading between the output device and the user terminal with a low power RF connection. However, the use of low power RF connection for communication and downloading is old and well known in the art. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to incorporate this feature into the system and method of Kay. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so in order to avoid having to use a wired connection.

Conclusion

Art Unit: 3625

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naeem Haq whose telephone number is (703)-305-3930. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am-5:00pm.

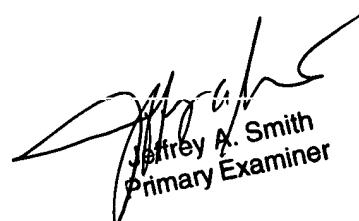
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff A. Smith can be reached on (703)-308-3588. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Naeem Haq, Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3625

May 10, 2004



Jeffrey A. Smith
Primary Examiner